

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Wow, summer is here with a vengeance as we have had some extreme heat so far this year. I have lived in our home for over 33 years and I cannot recall my lawn looking as yellow as it does now! Thanks to those of you who followed the city's request to limit the watering of your lawn a few weeks ago and please keep an eye out for similar updates in the future. Other cities have had to implement watering restrictions due to the high demand, and we are hoping we can conserve usage voluntarily.

Now that we have turned the corner in relation to COVID-19, we have resumed in-person City Council, Planning Commission, Economic Development Authority, and Park Board meetings. We are all thankful for that as there were certainly limitations to conducting the meetings via Zoom. I encourage residents to stay informed about what is going on in the city and there is no better way to do it than to drop in on a public meeting to see your elected and appointed officials in action. As a reminder, if you are not already a member of our Listserv, you can sign up on the longlakemn.gov homepage under Long Lake City Listserv to receive notices regarding upcoming meetings.

As noted in our last newsletter, we were about to host a retirement event in late April for Don "Bean" Gaspar after serving our city for over 45 years as a Public Works staff member. There was a good turnout of residents, business owners, and family members who wished to thank Bean for such a lengthy career of service to our city. I sense it will be a long time before we have another 45 plus year employee, but that long of a tenure was a testament to how much he enjoyed working for the citizens of Long Lake.

After not being able to have an in-person event last Memorial Day to honor those who fought and died serving our country, we were able to host a service at Nelson Lakeside Park this year. The weather was great and new this year was an athletic event called the Murph Challenge, which is named after U.S. Navy Lt. Michael Murphy, who was a Navy Seal that was killed in battle in Afghanistan in 2005. The memorial service and the athletic event complemented each other, and it was the first time Long Lake has been host to the Murph Challenge. A special thanks to Dave Shaughnessy, Hamel VFW Post 5903, and the Long Lake Fire Department for making the Memorial Day ceremony a success.

Enjoy the rest of summer and be sure to get outside and enjoy our great trails, parks, and beach. Thanks to fellow residents/friends, my wife and I were recently introduced to pickleball at the combination tennis/pickleball courts at Hardin Park. If you have not tried pickleball before, it's a fun sport that can be enjoyed by people of all ages and athletic abilities, so give it a try!

Charlie Miner, Mayor



NIGHT TO UNITE IS TUESDAY, AUGUST 3

Mark your calendars for the return of "Night to Unite" on Tuesday, August 3! Neighborhoods in Long Lake will welcome Wayzata Police cars and officers, Long Lake Fire trucks and firefighters, and McGruff the Crime Fighting Dog. There will be giveaways for kids and great photo opportunities for all. Night to Unite gatherings allow for neighbors to get together and discuss the theme of the day - looking out for one another.

If you'd like to schedule a Night to Unite visit for your neighborhood, please contact the Wayzata Police Department at 952.404.5340. An online form is also available for requesting a neighborhood visit on their website at <https://www.wayzata.org/252/Night-to-Unite>. Night to Unite parties MUST be registered by no later than Thursday, July 22.

The August 3, 2021 City Council meeting will be rescheduled for an alternate date in the same week in order to allow City Council members to participate in Night to Unite activities.

SPECIAL EVENTS ARE BACK!

CORN DAYS FESTIVAL—SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

The Church of St. George (133 Brown Road N) will be offering a one-day "Corn Days" celebration this year on Saturday, August 7 from 1:00 pm to 10:00 pm. As in past years, the event will feature lots of delicious sweet corn, food, music, games and fun. A complete schedule of events is available on the Corn Days event website at www.corndays.com.



LLFD 2021 RED HOT RUN 5K—SATURDAY, JULY 31

The 2021 Long Lake Fire Department Red Hot Run 5K will be held on Saturday, July 31 at Fire Station 1 (340 Willow Drive N). Same day registration/check-in begins at 8:00 am; the 5K starts at 9:00 am; and a free Kids Fun Run with Sparky will take place at 10:00 am. New this year, at 8:30 am, watch firefighters compete in a 100-yard dash in full firefighter turnout gear. To register in advance, visit www.active.com, keyword LLFD. Event proceeds benefit the Long Lake Volunteer Firefighters Relief Association.

BUCKHORN DAYS—UPDATES TO FOLLOW

The Long Lake Area Chamber of Commerce may be bringing back a one-day Buckhorn Days celebration this year. If an event permit application is made, we'll be sure to get the word out on our City website and Facebook page.

FIRE PREVENTION OPEN HOUSE—MONDAY, OCTOBER 4

The 2021 Fire Prevention Open House will be held on Monday, October 4 at Fire Station 1 (340 Willow Drive N). Meet the responders who keep our community safe! More event information will follow on our city website and Facebook page.

HELP CONSERVE WATER DURING DRY CONDITIONS, PLEASE LIMIT WATERING

You may be hearing that a number of cities have implemented watering bans due to the current drought conditions. Long Lake has no watering ban in effect at this time; however, we encourage everyone to please limit lawn watering to once or twice a week. We would also encourage those with automatic daily watering systems to turn them off and limit watering at this time. Lawn watering is most effective in evening hours. Hand watering of flower and vegetable gardens or trees should be done before 11:00 am or after 5:00 pm to be most effective. With everyone doing their part to voluntarily conserve, we hope no watering ban will be necessary - and thank you very much for your help in this! Your conservation efforts are needed and appreciated.

Our Public Works Department will be actively monitoring our water system as drought conditions continue.

Please note that in the event of any equipment failures such as watermain breaks, emergency watering bans may be necessary while repairs are underway. In the event a ban is needed, we would utilize our City Listserv email subscriber list, city website and city Facebook page to get the word out as quickly as possible.

SEPARATE METERS FOR IRRIGATION

All residential and commercial utility customers are charged for water and sewer usages based on actual water usage each quarter. **Though we strongly encourage water conservation at this time**, residents who typically experience increased water usage seasonally due to irrigating lawns and landscaping do have the option to contract with a licensed plumber to purchase and install an "irrigation meter". Water used for irrigation only can be tracked separately through an irrigation meter and would not be subject to sewer charges. Irrigation meters may only be sold to licensed plumbers for installation, with each install inspected by Long Lake Public Works. For more general information on irrigation meters, we welcome you or your licensed plumber to contact City Hall at 952.473.6961. Plumbers may schedule an appointment to purchase an irrigation meter and installation permit by calling Jeanette 952.473.6961 x1. Note that meter supplies are subject to availability.

WELCOME NEW PUBLIC WORKS STAFF, MATT MENARD AND ALEX EBNER!

With the retirement of our 45-year Public Works employee Don "Bean" Gaspar back in April, we've brought on two new faces you'll see out and about to fully staff our Long Lake Public Works Department. Please join us in enthusiastically welcoming Matt Menard (left) and Alex Ebner (right)! Matt began his employment in March, and Alex started in late June. It's been a pleasure getting to know them thus far, and we sincerely look forward to continuing to work with them. As you see them in your neighborhoods, feel free to stop them and say "hello"!



BOX-NETTING FOR CARP MANAGEMENT IN LONG LAKE THIS SUMMER



As part of ongoing management efforts to control the invasive carp fish population, the Long Lake Waters Association (LLWA) contracted with Carp Solutions to install box-nets to capture and remove carp this summer. Box-netting has occurred twice this summer, and is planned to happen at two locations again in late July.

Removing carp is one strategy to improve water quality. Based on recent carp population surveys, it is estimated that Long Lake has nearly 5 times the recommended threshold level of carp (89 lbs/acre) associated with good water quality. As bottom feeders, carp stir up the sediment in the water, preventing sunlight from penetrating, which in turn prevents water plants from growing, which in turn eliminates habitat for the native bluegill fish and greatly impacts water quality. You will likely see sections near the shoreline marked off with buoys and may see activity as Carp Solutions lures carp into the box-nets with bait corn. And on the netting days, you could see as many as 400-1000 carp captured in the 30x60 foot nets and removed from the lake. Please check the LLWA's Facebook page or Instagram feeds to learn more about their work. We applaud the LLWA for taking on this project, and for their ongoing efforts towards improving water quality in Long Lake!

The Long Lake Waters Association (LLWA) is a community based lake association located in the Long Lake watershed, drawing members from Long Lake, Orono, Wayzata and Medina. **If you are interested in learning more about the LLWA, becoming a member, or donating to help fund continued water quality improvement projects in Long Lake and the watershed**, please visit the LLWA's website at www.longlakewaters.org.

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ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION

For additional contact information, resources, and City news, please visit the City of Long Lake website at www.longlakemn.gov.